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News Release

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USDA Announces Two Day Extension for Farmers Market and Local Food Grant Applications

WASHINGTON, June 25, 2014 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced a two-day deadline extension for grant applications for the <u>Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program</u> (FMLFPP). The grants, which are administered by the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and funded by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill), strengthen communities by supporting direct farm-to-consumer markets and local food enterprises, and by improving access to fresh, high-quality agricultural products for millions of Americans.

Some applicants have experienced technical difficulties submitting their applications. To provide more time for all applicants, submissions for the FMLFPP grants will be accepted through <u>Grants.gov</u> from 12:00 A.M. Eastern Time on Thursday, June 26 through 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time on Friday, June 27, 2014. Applications must be submitted electronically in their entirety through <u>Grants.gov</u> during this time. Applications cannot be submitted by email, fax, or U.S. mail. Applicants should be sure to include all information and attachments in their Grants.gov submission. The requirements for submission remain the same and are described in the Request for Applications (RFA):

- Farmers Market Promotion Program RFA
- Local Food Promotion Program RFA

Applicants experiencing problems with Grants.gov or SAM.gov, should contact the sites' support services. Support for Grants.gov is available at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov from Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM Eastern Time. Support for SAM.gov is available through the Federal Service Desk at 1-866-606-8220 or www.fsd.gov Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM Eastern Time.

For more information about FMLFPP, including program background, visit the AMS grants website: http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSgrants.